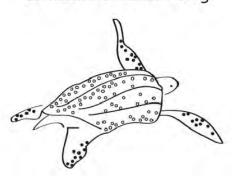
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Bupati Tambrauw, Gabriel Assem, and interpreter, Fransiska Oktoprimasakti. The Bupati explains the cultural importance of leatherbacks to the Tambrauw region. He told a traditional folklore story and demonstrated through photos the ceremonial dress locals wear to welcome leatherbacks to the nesting beaches if the turtles have not been seen for a while.



Welcome to the
PACIFIC LEATHERBACK SEATURTLE
CONSERVATION SUMMIT 2013





Presentation from Scott Benson, Marine ecologist and Pacific leatherback expert, Moss Landing Marine Labs.

Day 1, October 14

Presentations on day one included a scientific overview of the biology and ecology of Pacific leatherbacks; an overview from the U.S. on threats and conservation measures; an overview from Indonesia including threats, monitoring and conservation efforts on nesting beaches, and local socio-economic realities and community perspectives in Indonesia; and the formation of a recent educational exchange program with Pacific leatherback curriculum between elementary school students in Monterey County and students in the villages of the Tambrauw region of Indonesia.

Presentation from Ricardo Tapilatu, Faculty, Marine Science Department-State University of Papua (UNIPA)



Breakfast conversations among attendees

Special greeting from actress and sea turtle activist Angela Kinsey.





Day 2, October 15

California's First Inaugural Pacific Leatherback Sea Turtle Conservation Day

The morning began with a presentation of the Draft Memorandum of Agreement between the governments of California and Tambrauw, Indonesia. Attendees broke out into four focus groups to begin discussing ways to address rapid assessments of fisheries threats, government collaboration, funding and resource sharing, and education and outreach. The formalities of the Summit concluded with an afternoon press conference with Geoff as the Master of Ceremonies.







Attendees get a sneak peak of footage from an upcoming MacGillivray Freeman film "Journey to the South Pacific" which features the Pacific leatherback.



Signing of the ceremonial declaration

Break-out groups brainstorm challenges and action items





California Assemblymember Paul Fong (author of the Pacific Leatherback Se Turtle bill) and Amri Masri, District Secretary of the Tambrauw Regency Monterey county teacher accepts leatherback sea turtle cards hand drawn by students in the Tambrauw villages brought back from Indonesia by Fitryanti Pakiding and Deasy Lontoh (right). The exchange is in response to cards with notes sent by Monterey County students as organized by Simona Bartl (left).



Go leatherback research!



Exchange between the California and Tambrauw governments. From left: Amri Masri (District Secretary of the Tambrauw Regency), Valerie Termini (Ocean Protection Council Project Manager), Cat Kuhlman (Deputy Secretary for Ocean and Coastal Matters), Gabriel Assem (Bupati Tambrauw)



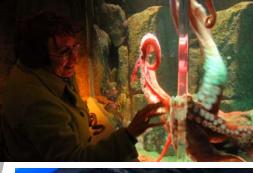
Happy Pacific Leatherback Sea Turtle Conservation Day. From left: Ricardo Tapilatu, Gabriel Assem, Peter Dutton, Tetha Hitipeuw, Danny Pattipeilohy, Scott Benson, Geoff Shester, Ashley Blacow, Malcolm Johnson, Ben Enticknap.



Day concludes with evening dinner at the Monterey Bay Aquarium



A welcome from Aimee David, Ocean Conservation Policy Director with the Aquarium





Tambrauw delegation

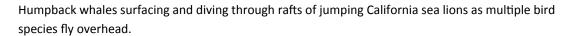
Day 3, October 16

Group tour in Monterey Bay through foraging habitat of Pacific leatherback sea turtles











Jellies abound



Until We Meet Again...

